NEW PRODUCTS

CORE COLLECTOR
Charterhouse Turf Machinery’s CC3000HL Core Collector made its debut at Harrogate Week. Designed for speedy clear-up after greens aeration work, the pedestrian operated unit has a spacious 1 cu m capacity hopper that tips hydraulically to a height of 1.3m (51in).
For more information visit: www.charterhouseturfmachinery.com

GRASS GRAB-ER
Hydrotech Solutions Ltd has launched the Grass Grab-er. The Grass Grab-er is a low cost, highly effective and robust waste water treatment system designed to treat machinery wash down water and allow it to be re-used or disposed of in a responsible and legal manner. The Grass Grab-er which is an American designed system is widely in use across the United States has a unique system to remove the contaminants which cause golf clubs concern with ground water legislation. For further information contact us on: 01925 758099 or visit: www.hydrotechsolutionsltd.co.uk.

SOIL MOVER
Campey introduced the new Dakota D606 Soil Mover/Box Scraper, which enables a perfectly level finish to be achieved on surfaces such as tees. Weighing 750kg and 1.8m wide, it has a capacity of 1.5 cu m and can be powered by tractors of 30hp-60hp. Featuring very heavy-duty construction, the height of the blades can be adjusted quickly and precisely. Options include laser controls to ensure that precise levels are constantly achieved.
For more information visit: www.campeyturfcare.com

DIVOT STOPPER
Green Tee have just launched the Divot-Stopper. The product avoids wrist ache after shots, and also simulates playing off the perfect lie. It’s also great for using off winter mats so as not to compromise the players optimised shot capabilities.
Not only does this pack have the potential to prevent an average 700 Divots from ever even happening, it is also beneficial to the player for ease of use and reducing the likelihood of club damage and dirt or mud splats hitting clothing, face and eyes.
For more information email: NGreenTee@sol.com

WATER SAVING WETTING AGENT
Headland have launched TriCure Ad (Aqua Dynamics), their new, advanced successor to TriCure wetting agent.
Designed for increased effectiveness in preventing and controlling hydrophobic conditions and dry patch, TriCure Ad combines improved soil treatment capabilities with additional soil surface dry-down characteristics for a faster return to play in adverse conditions.
For further information Tel: 01223 597834 or visit: www.headlandamenity.com

THE PRESSURE’S OFF
Terrain Aeration launched Spin Spray, their new-to-the-UK hand held sprayer that is gravity fed and operates without continuous pressure. Portable and compact, with a total weight of just under one kilogram, Spin Spray comes with three different nozzles producing three different volumes of spray.
For further information Tel: 01449 636783, or visit: www.terrainaeration.co.uk

THE PERFECT STORM
Sand Storm made its debut at BTME 2007. The Sand Storm is an innovative, simple, but effective means to recycle sand and other materials. The original Sand Storm was only launched in the UK in September 2006 – but a modified version was already on the drawing board at that time, with the UK market specifically in mind.
Principally aimed at the renovation of golf course bunkers, the sand storm can also handle other materials that may benefit from a screening process. Vibrating screens on the Sand Storm work to remove debris such as leaves, twigs, needles, weeds, stone and clay particles. The screens will also trap silt deposits on their surface, allowing for wash off and removal. The process remixes the sand particles and ‘fluffs’ it to a like new condition.
For more information contact JSM Distribution on: 0845 026 0064.

SAVING WATER AND MONEY
Vitax introduce the Dispatch application kit, a liquid surfactant, which comes with its own injection pump specifically designed for irrigation systems. Formulated by Aquatrols and available in America for a number of years, Dispatch has proved its worth by saving up to 30% on water bills.
The injection pump, which is provided with all necessary connectors and easily installed by the customer’s irrigation engineer, ensures that the surfactant/water solution is always applied at the correct strength and is neither diluted nor capable of scorch. An application rate of 0.9 of a litre per hectare means that Dispatch is economical to use as well as an important water/money saving tool.
For further information contact Vitax on Tel: 01530 51060 or visit: www.vitax.co.uk
GOLF FANATICS

Want to watch next year's Open in style? Never miss a swing with the new HANNSgolf 15" LCD TV. No detail of the game has been missed in the design; a pristine white golf ball dimple surround inspired by the traditional golf ball houses the 1024x768 XGA screen, two precisely balanced iron club heads make up the LCD TV's base, while a novel, oversized green golf tee acts as the HANNSgolf's stand. The fairway is just a button away!

For more information visit www.hannspree.com the range is available from: www.misco.co.uk

BSH INTRODUCES 'LEVEL PAR'

British Seed Houses launched its new Level Par velvet bent grass blend at Harrogate Week 2007.

Level Par is a unique blend of Avalon and new Vesper velvet bent grasses and is suitable for use on both soil-based and USGA greens. Avalon is renowned for its shoot density, fine leaf and superb wear tolerance and has been used successfully in the UK since 1997. Vesper is an exciting new addition to the STRI seed listings. It has the highest recorded score for shoot density (10.3), a very fine leaf and a dark, year-round colour.

Level Par produces a dense sward, requires minimal watering and is suitable for lower or more traditional maintenance regimes. Because it's a blend, the risk associated with sowing just a monoculture of bent grass is reduced.

For more information visit: www.britishseedhouses.co.uk

BUFFALO KB3 BLOWER

JK Inc, providers of niche turf technology products have introduced the new KB3 Turbine Blower to its range. The KB3 supersedes the KB2 and provides even more power with a 3900 rpm operating speed. The most exciting feature is the economically designed, waterproof, wireless remote for easy throttle and nozzle control.

For more information call: 01763 208142

FINE TURF AERATOR

The new GXi is a compact fine turf aerator incorporating Wiedenmann's revolutionary ATC technology. Specially developed for fine turf and designed from the ground up, this compact machine incorporates a new chassis and new linkage and is ideal for 25hp compact tractors and above. The launch model is available with a 1.4 metre working width and has a selection of accessories including a turf retainer, core swath board and comprehensive range of solid and coring tines.

For more information visit: www.wiedenmanns.com

GOLF COURSE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Korec launched their latest software system FastMap Greenkeeper - A powerful PC software system that allows the Golf Course Manager to visually manage the assets and infrastructure of the course - at this year's BIGGA exhibition.

Korec's team of surveyors will undertake a Land Survey of the golf course playing surfaces, providing an accurate plan, the data is then installed as part of the system and used to provide a single source of information producing reports and maps for all aspects of the course. The survey can be added to and updated by the greenkeeper using Trimble handheld GPS.

For more information visit: www.korecgroup.com/greenkeeper
SUPER CONCENTRATED SPRAY INDICATOR

Headland have launched their new, non-toxic spray indicator Super Signal Blue.

As well as providing visual evidence of the whereabouts of spray applications, thereby eliminating waste due to overlap, Super Signal Blue indicates drift, and potential nozzle blocking – an important factor with the increasing use of shrouded booms. This money saving new product dissipates with sunlight or moisture and will not permanently stain vegetation, soil or human skin.

For further information contact Headland on Tel: 01223 597834 or visit: www.headlandamenity.co.uk

T3000 RANGE TAKES CENTRE STAGE

The T3000 series took centre stage on New Holland's stand at this year's BTME.

Making its debut at the three day event, the T3000 series is an upgrade of the TCE series. Designed to meet the expanding needs of greenkeepers and groundsmen, the upgrade applies to the engine and means that the tractors will meet, and move beyond, the new emission levels set by the EU.

For more information visit: www.newholland.com

POWER BRUSH ATTACHMENT

The patented Rear Roller Power Brush Kit is the latest edition for the Turfworks product, which enables turf professionals to undertake a range of key maintenance tasks with their existing greens mowers and can be fitted to all Turfworks chassis, avoiding unsightly deposits of clippings.

For more information visit: www.campeyturfcare.co.uk

SUPER-COMPACT OVERSEEDERS

Among the latest launches from Campey Turf Care Systems is the range of Vredo supa-compact overseeders, designed to enable greenkeepers to renovate turf surfaces quickly and effectively.

Three Vredo supa-compact overseeders are available, with operating widths of 0.8m, 1.2m and 1.6m. Each can either be mounted on to the three-point linkage of a compact tractor, or used as a trailed machine.

For more information visit: www.campeyturfcare.co.uk

NEW ADDITION

Rigby Taylor has added to their Mascot Grass Seed range for 2007, the new strong creeping red fescue cultivar Greenvie. Already ranked number one on the STRI list, this cultivar produces a dense sward and is designed for use on golf tees and fairways.

For more information visit: www.rigbytaylor.com

SISTER MODEL MAKES DEBUT

Following the 2005 UK launch of the Pequea GT100 Top Dresser, its sister model, the SuperSpread, made its UK debut to the golf market at Harrogate Week. Exclusive distributors, Lloyds of Letchworth are delighted to offer the larger version for golf course and amenity maintenance.

For more information visit: www.lloydsandco.com

KEEP SPRAYS ON TARGET

Techneat Engineering has introduced a new shrouded boom for the company's renowned SPPS range of self-propelled pedestrian sprayers. The innovative boom design, available in widths of up to 3 meters, enables operators to safely and accurately target spray application, without fear of spray drift.

For more information visit: www.technet.co.uk
AN INNOVATIVE SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

As climate changes lead to extremes of weather and even more unpredictable rain patterns for turf professionals to combat, Dennis offers the new mini Blotter as a solution.

The mini Blotter is ideal for the removal of surface water from football pitches, cricket grounds, sports stadia, golf courses and racecourses. It is equally at home on artificial turf, athletics tracks, tennis courts and hard surfaces like car parks. Its speedy results mean that facilities can be kept open after unexpected downpours, avoidingfixture cancellation.

For more information visit: www.dennisuk.com

NEW TRACTORS AND GROUNDS CARE PRODUCTS

Massey Ferguson's all-new 3600 Series mid-range is suitable for a wide range of on- and off-road applications within the grounds care, landscaping and commercial horticulture sectors. Massey Ferguson's 3600 Series comprises the MF 3615, MF 3625, MF 3635 and MF 3645 tractors rated at 58hp, 68hp, 78hp and 91hp respectively. All are powered by three-cylinder turbocharged Sisu engines, the top model benefiting also from an intercooler.

For more information visit: www.masseyferguson.com

BIGGA SUPPORTS NEW COURSE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

Golf course management software OnCourse, developed by Swedish company SYSteam Epani and endorsed by BIGGA, was re-launched with some new features during Harrogate Week.

The programme enables Course Managers to budget and track expenses; prepare personnel records and time sheets; record equipment and property maintenance records; stock control; list details of suppliers; write reports and keep a diary.

OnCourse was first launched in the UK seven years ago but since then several improvements have been added, including new improved user interface, which simplifies navigation around the software offering opportunities to link to websites and a unique web marketing enabling users to advertise second hand machinery between OnCourse golf clubs.

"Ultimately OnCourse saves you time and money and with record keeping and a detailed paper trail so important to the modern Course Manager we feel we offer an easy-to-use comprehensive solution," explained Daniel Henningsson of OnCourse Epani.

"We are delighted to receive the endorsement of BIGGA and we hope that the Association members benefit from OnCourse," he added.

OnCourse package costs £2,000 for a multi-user 12 month license with full training and aftercare, however there is a three year payment plan option which helps reduce the costs.

For more information contact Fliss Chaffer on: 01347 833800.

NEW PRODUCTS

HOBBIES

Our new feature, finds out what greenkeepers get up to in their spare time.

Here’s something you didn’t know about me...

Name: Steve Pope
Age: 75
Club: Tyneside GC
Position: Retired Member after 39 years
Hobby: Building Rocking Horses

When and how did you get introduced to the art of building rocking horses?
"I was first introduced to the craft when I decided to build a rocking horse for my grandson. I got tuition at Kirkley Hall College, Ponteland in a class of 10. At first I just made a small one but my grandson grew out if too quickly. I decided that a medium height rocking horse was best, measuring about 36-38 inches off the floor. I’m now on rocking horse number four. I got into this hobby as I thought they were nice gifts for children and I wanted something to do in the wintertime."

How long does it take to build a rocking horse?
"Well it’s a lot of work. I do a couple of hours at a time and then keep coming back to it. I’ll start one in June and be finished in time for Christmas."

What is it about the craft that appeals to you?
"I find it relaxing."

Where does the building take place?
"In my greenhouse. I use the greenhouse to store bedding plants for golf clubs and when they go I use the greenhouse as my workshop."

How long have you been building rocking horses?
"Five years. The last one I sold for £700 last Christmas and I’m just finishing one that is going to Kent shortly."

£700 sounds like a lot of money, do you make much of a profit?
"Well considering the the tac costs around £189 on it’s own, I don’t make much profit but I enjoy doing it."

Steve is happy to take orders for his handmade rocking horses, you can contact him on: 0191 4132662.

Do you or your fellow greenkeepers have an unusual hobby? If so, get in touch, email: melissa@bigga.co.uk or tel: 01347 833800